

The corolla lobes of the typical form were shortly ciliate, which is unusual; in the var. this was not so. In neither were the corolla lobes coloured as depicted by Andrews though, in the author's experience, this is often the case and is not a good specific.

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A NEW SPECIES OF ALOE FROM TROPICAL ARABIA

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(With Plates XXVI & XXVII)

Aloe doei Lavranos. Nova species, affinis *A. niebuhrianae* Lavranos, sed habitu fere solitario, pedunculo graciliore, perianthio stricto, angustiore, ubique sparse sed longissime piloso, segmentibus exterioribus perianthii solum per 10—14 mm. liberis differt.

Planta fere solitaria, breviter caulescens; *folia* 12—14, junioria adscendentia, deinde patentia, apice paulo recurva, 30—35 cm. longa, basi 8—10 cm. lata, *supra* viridula, interdum sparse albo-maculata, planiuscula vel leviter concava, *subtus* convexa; foliorum *margines* sinuati, dentibus pungentibus, deltoideis,



PLATE XXVI

A. doei Lavranos

Plant from the Audhali Escarpment flowering in cultivation.

Photo: Botanical Research Institute, Pretoria.

a 3 mm. longis, 8—12 mm. inter se distantibus armati; *inflorescentiae* 2-vel 3-ramosae, a 70 cm. altae, ramis arcuato-erectis; *pedunculus* basi plano-convexus, 10 mm. latus, deinde teres; *racemi* conici, 15—20 cm. longi, 5 cm. lati, subdensi; *bractae* deltoideae, 3—6 mm. longae, 2—3 mm. latae; *pedicelli* virides, 5—7 mm. longi, glabri; *perianthia* flava, ca. 25 mm. longa, fere stricta, supra ovarium 7 mm. diam., extus ubique sed sparse pilis a 8—9 mm. longis induta, segmentibus exterioribus per 10—14 mm. liberis, interioribus latioribus; *filamenta* basi albida et complanata, deinde filiformia et rubro-brunnea, *antheris* aetatae per 4 mm. exsertis; *stigma* demum per 5 mm. exsertum; *ovarium* laete viridum, 5 mm. longum, 2 mm. diam., apice truncatum.

SOUTHERN ARABIA. Edge of Audhali Escarpment, 10 miles East of Ras Thira on the track leading to Marwaha, alt. ca. 7,400 ft. (2,250 m.), lat. 13° 59' N., long. 45° 56' E., coll. 17 Aug. 1962, fl. Bryanston Dec. 1964–Jan. 1965, Lavranos et Doe 2264, holotype (PRE).

DESCRIPTION

Plants usually solitary, occasionally forming small groups.

Leaves 12–14, the young ones ascending, the older ones spreading with slightly recurved apices, 30–35 cm. long, 8–10 cm. broad at base; *upper surface* dull green, sometimes bearing a sparse scattering of white, roundish spots, flat at base but slightly canaliculate towards the apex; *lower surface* broadly convex, unicoloured; *margins* markedly sinuous with a purplish-brown, cartilaginous border and armed with hard, sharp, red-brown, deltoid teeth which are up to 3 mm. long and 8–12 mm. distant;

Inflorescence 2- or 3-branched, to 70 cm. tall, the branches arcuate-erect.

Peduncle plano-convex at base and in its lower portion, terete thereafter, grayish-brown with a bloom, 10 mm. broad at base, 5 mm. diam. below the first branch, the branches produced from its upper third.

Racemes 15–20 cm. long, 5 cm. broad, conical, all buds spreading almost horizontally, open flowers, pendulous;

Bracts rather small, deltoid, whitish, 5- to 7-nerved, 3–6 mm. long, 2–3 mm. broad.

Pedicels green, glabrous, 5–7 mm. long.

Perianths yellow, cylindric-trigonous, covered rather sparsely with very long (up to 8–9 mm.) white hairs over the entire outer surface, 25–26 mm. long, 7 mm. diam. over the ovary, the mouth much compressed laterally; *outer segments* free for 10–14 mm., with three prominent bright green nerves which become confluent towards the slightly recurved apices; *inner segments* pale yellow, broader than the outer.